

Wm. J. de Grouchy EDITOR



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Charles J. Ravel
ART EDITOR

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The Shadow ~



BURIED DEEP SOMEWHERE IN THE CITY IS THE COURT OF INJUSTICE PRESIDED OVER BY A SUPER-CRIMINAL WHO STYLES HIMSELF

JUDGE LAWLESS, WHO MAKES A MOCKERY OF ALL THINGS LEGAL AND EVEN DEFIES THE

SHADOW

















INTERESTING

THAN I DO!

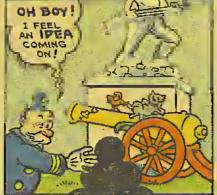










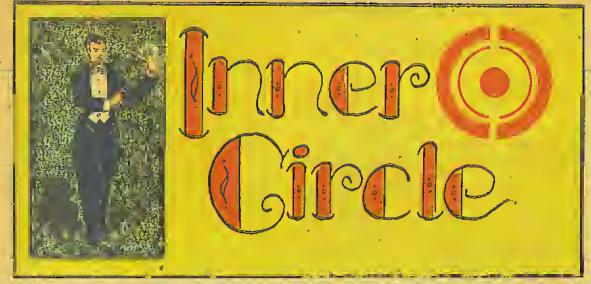












## NICK CARTER'S INNER CIRCLE HOCUS CORPUS!

"Probably never in all my varied and I do " mean varied experiences, with crime and criminals have I run into as bizarre and outre a case as the one I shall try to describe to you today."

Nick Carter grinned at the members of the Inner Circle who, as always, were enthralled when Niek had a case to describe.

"Crime, murder, is bad no matter what the background of the kill," Nick continued, "but when it's all tied up with magic and magicians . . . oh, brother! One night, not long ago, I went to the theater. I expected to see a wonderful new magician who had just come to New York. It was his New York debut and I suppose he was excited. He came out as the curtains raised, smiled a little nervously and said, 'Good evening,' into the orchestra pit. friends, I shall try to amuse you with varied sleights, hocus' pocus and legerdemain. If you watch very closely, I shall fool you even more . . . for the closer you watch the less you'll see!'

"That was just his spiel . . . but it turned out to be true in more ways than one! He wasn't a sensational act. I've seen better, but he was a clean performer. He did small stuff, vanishing bird cage, cards, he produced billiard balls out of the air ... and then he announced that his most sensational stunt would be a substitution illusion. It was sensational all right!

"He stood in stage center while his assistants came out and pulled a trunk into place

He gestured for them to open it and he climbed in. A girl stood at his side. said very seriously that in ten seconds he would change places with the girl. would be inside the locked, bound trunk and He would be free.

"He got into the trunk. It was locked, straps were tied around it and the girl smiled. A framework of light canvas was out around the 1runk. This was like a three fold screen. The girl stepped behind the screen. An assistant counted the seconds with a stop watch. There was a revolver shot and the assistants tore the screen away. The magician, Grove, stood there. The girl had disappeared. Grove looked dazed. He stumbled forward towards the footlights and tried to speak. While he stood there wavering, the assistants tore the trunk open and the girl stepped out; she looked astounded. As she stepped out of the trunk, Grove raised hands and fell forward, off the stage

"He was dead before anyone could get him. out of the kettle drum he landed in." paused, took a drink of water and said, "All the circumstances were bollixed up to begin with, for after all, Grove was a magician and the trick was designed to fool us so that we wouldn't know who was where, when. Then, just as people in the theatre realized that something serious had gone wrong, there was a gasp from everyone. Grove was back on the stage getting up from behind the trunk. He felt his head as though he'd been blackjacked.

"That did it. The audience was on its feet screaming, scared, puzzled . . . they couldn't imagine what had happened. For that matter neither could I. I had made my way to the corpse and was looking at it when the gasps drew my attention to the stage. Grove looked down at me. I looked down at Grove, dead.

"I could feel my head spinning. I said 'Call the police. This man has been shot!' I called the ushers to me and had them cover the exits of the theatre so no one could leave



till the police got there. Grove, at least the one on the stage, the live one, said, 'So he tried to ruin me! My twin brother, the black sheep... I always knew he'd try to do it!'

"I had thought of the twin angle because I knew that there are some magic illusions that are dependent on a double. But I knew that the substitution trunk trick was not one of these. None of the other tricks Grove had done needed a double.

"The police got there just in time to quell a small riot, people were furious, not wanting to get involved with a murder investigation that they knew would be messy, they were trying to get out of the theatre. The strong arm squad put an end to that.

"Clancy, a friend of mine on homicide, came up to me. He asked what the score was and I had to attempt to describe what had happened. He looked puzzled.

"We went upstage and talked to Grove. He was a wreck. The girl assistant looked ready to cry. She said, 'And we never had time to do your best trick. The cigarettes from the air! He almost snarled at her. 'I'm ruined. My New York debut is debris, and you talk about the production of lit cigarettes from the air!' We let them beef to each other and Clancy and I went over and looked at the trunk. I don't want to give the secret of the trunk away as it's a very baffling bit of magic. Suffice it to say that what seemed to have happened, was that as Grove got into the trunk and the girl out, he had fired a shot to let the audience know he was successful. We looked at the gun. It had five blank cartridges in it. Well, that wasn't too puzzling. Anyone could have put a real cartridge in the gun.

"But, what knocked all of us for a loop was that when the Medical Examiner got there he looked at the corpse and said that it had been dead for about two hours!

"Now...although all this has taken quite a while in the telling, in actuality I don't think more than a half an hour had gone by between the shot and the arrival of the M.E."

Nick shook his head and said. "I started to feel as though I were in the middle of a waking nightmare. Nothing hing together. Let's assume that Grove's twin had arrived and planned to louse up Grove's act. Let's assume too, that he was behind the trunk ready to appear and ruin Grove's trick when he got out of the trunk. Let's assume also.





that Grove, ready to shoot off the blank, was startled when he saw his twin and instinctively fired the blank at his twin. Where had the real cartridge come from and how come the corpse was two hours dead?"

Nick's voice left the question hanging in the air. He then continued. "We might still have been chasing around in circles if I hadn't had a brainstorm. I thought to myself... This is a case involving a magician... Nothing is the way it really looks... let's turn everything upsidedown and then take a look... I did and I was surprised at what I saw!

"Grove and his girl were still arguing across the stage. I winked at Clancy and walked over to Grove. I said, 'Pardon the interruption... but may I see the palms of your hands, Mr. Grove?' He raised them, looking puzzled and I looked at his white, clean hands. They were soft and supple just the way you'd imagine a magician's hands should look. That tore it!

"Grove must have seen from my face that knew. He made a gesture ... and then he ran. He ran towards the center of the stage. I saw him kick a plate in the stage floor. I realized what he was trying and dove for him. Lucky I did, too ... for he was on a trap door. As he started to sink into it, I grabbed him. Clancy looking as though I'd gone out of my mind, grabbed Grove and

pulled him out of the trap as I held him.

"Clancy looked the question, so I said as I got to my feet . . . "He killed the real Grove! This the real twin . . . the black sheep! He must have had an argument with Grove before the show and killed him. He was stuck, there was no way out. He was a mediocre magician, we found out afterwards and resented his brother's success.

"There he was with a corpse on his hands and ... a chance for what he thought was an opportunity to take over his brother's fame! He planted the corpse behind the trick trunk and figured on so confusing things that the cops wouldn't know which way was up! He almost made it too."



Nick paused and reached for his hat. Chick, his foster son was on his feet. He asked. "Whow...what goes...how did you know that the twin was the fake?"

"That was luck... you see I know that any magician who produces lit cigarettes as part of his act, invariably gets callous tissue on them, because of the burns he gets!"

Chick said ... "Aw, that's cheating ... we couldn't have known that!"

Nick said. "The whole thing was a cheat, from beginning to end . . . you see, it was about magic and the essence of magic is holding out one piece of info! So long . . . see you next month."

And Nick was gone ...















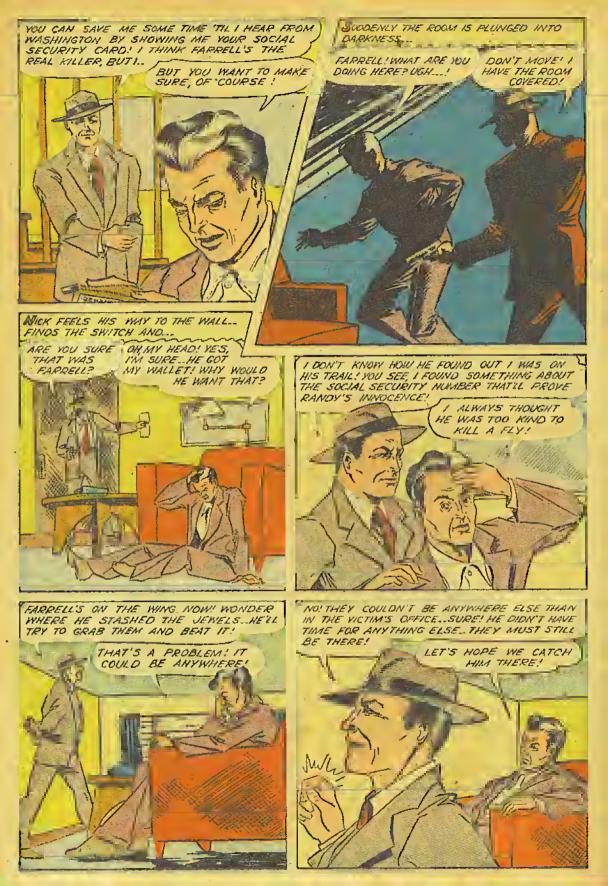


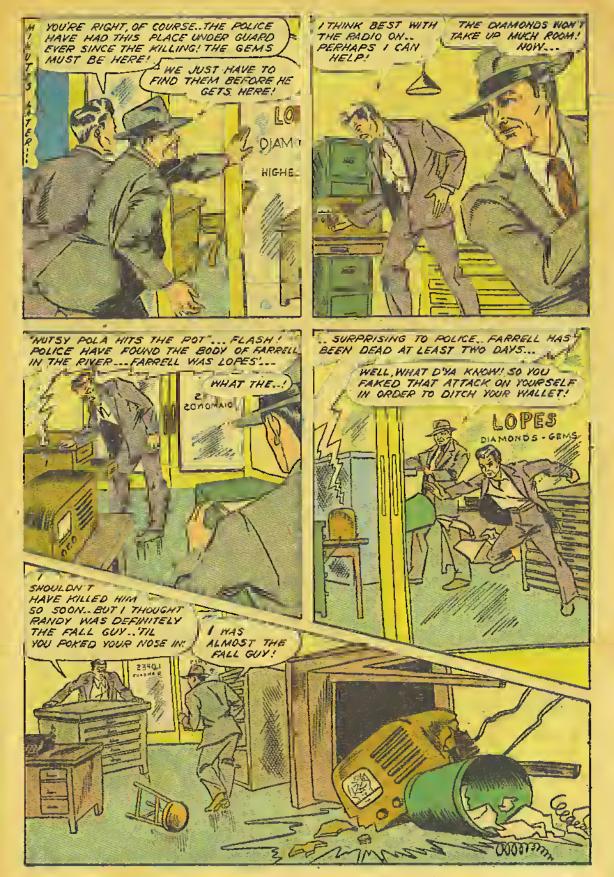




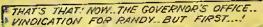














HE DIDN'T! THAT WAS JUST A PIECE OF BAD LUCK FOR RANDY!

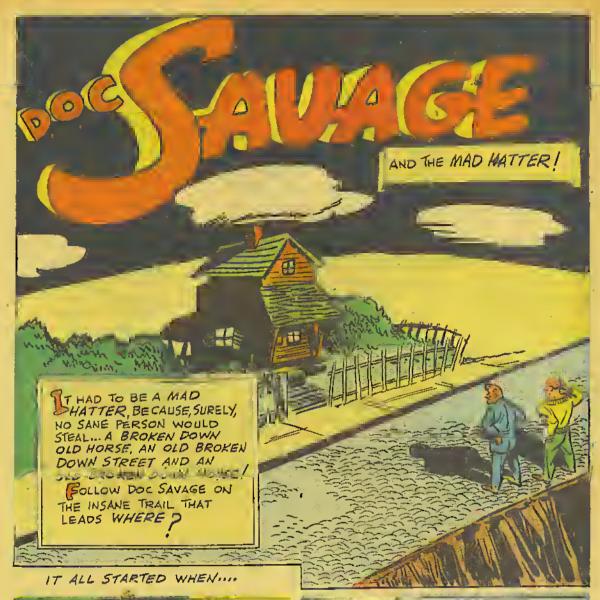


SO THAT'S WHY HE WANTED THE RADIO ON! TO KEEP ME AWAY FROM IT! HI HO! A CLEAN SLATE FOR THE COPS!





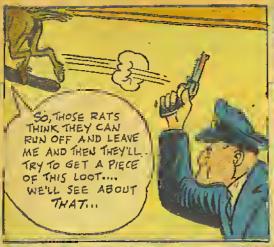






THE HORSE ...









YEAH, HE
RAN INTO
THE COPS RAN IN...
THERE WAS NO ONE
THERE! HE JUST
VANISHED... AND WITH HIM
WENT A HALF MILLION
DOLLARS WORTH OF
JEWELS!

THAT'S A NICE IMPOSSIBLE SITUATION... I THINK I CAN SEE HOW THE MAD HATTER DISAPPEARED...
BUT THAT WON'T FIND HIM AGAIN...
THAT PLOT HAD A LOT OF THOUGHT IN IT... THERE MUST HAVE BEEN MORE THAN ONE MAN INVOLVED...
WE BETTER SIT TIGHT AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS!



## WHAT HAPPENS ? PLENTY!









WOW! MY CITY EDITOR
WILL GO NUTS IF I
CALL IN ABOUT A
VANISHING HOUSE
ON TOP OF ALL
THIS! AND I CAN'T
DO IT TO A NICE
GUY LIKE HIM!

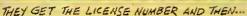
I GET IT,
DOC... THIS IS
WHAT YOU
WERE WAITING
FOR. THIS IS
OUR FIRST
LEAD!











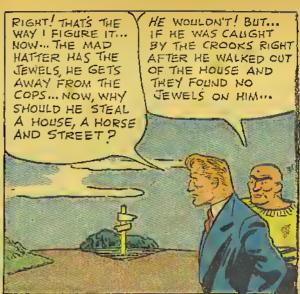


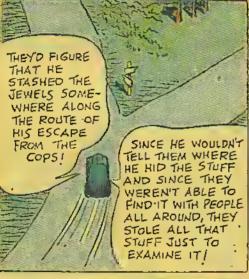














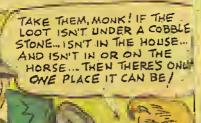






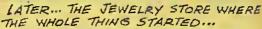


COP SUIT RIGHT WE NAB HIM IN THE COP SUIT RIGHT AFTER THE STICK-UP, WE FIND HE AIN'T GOT THE LOOT AND THEN HE GETS AWAY FROM US! AND WE STILL AIN'T FOUND THE LOOT!



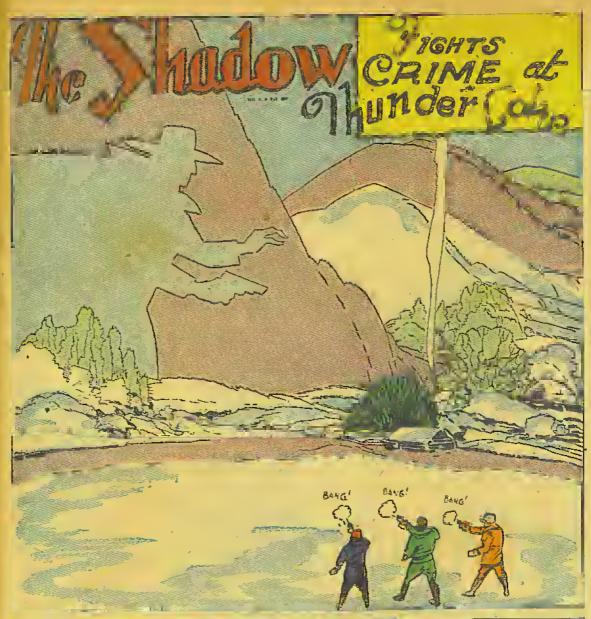






I MEAN THAT IF THE JEWELS CAN'T
BE FOUND, THEN THEY NEVER LEFT
THE STORE! THE MAD HATTER AND
THE OWNER OF THE STORE RIGGED
UP A FAKE ROBBERY TO GYP
THE INSURANCE COMPANY!





LEGEND HAS IT
THAT THE SHADOW,
MASTER FOE OF
CRIME, MOVES
SWIFTER THAN THE
WIND IN HIS
CAMPAIGNS AGAINST
MEN OF EVIL...
HOW TRUE THIS
CLAIM MAY BE, IS
GRAPHICALLY
ILLUSTRATED IN
THE FOLLOWING
STORY...

















LAMONT! LISTEN TO

HAPPENED!

WHAT

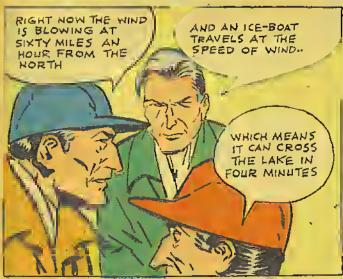
WHAT'S THAT?

MARAUDERS AT BRADSHAWS PLACE ?

MASKED





















## WHOSE LITTLE ZOO IS 'OO?



WHEN THE POLICE TOOK THE LITTLE OLD MAN AWAY, FLATTY HEAVED A SIGH OF RELIEF.



















































THIS STORY BEGAN MAY 16,1939, WHEN A REPORT REACHED THE TIMES-NEWS OFFICE THAT THE FAMOUS OLD GLADSTONE MANSON AT BAY MANOR WAS HAUNTED-EVEN THE MOST CONSERVATIVE RESIDENTS OF THAT COMMUNITY ACTUALLY WERE BELIEVING THAT THE OLD HID-VICTORIAN HOUSE ON THE HILL OVERLOOKING THE BAY ENTERTAINED STRANGE NOCTURNAL SPIRITS—

SWEEPING ACROSS THE BAY-MOST OF THE

WINDOW PANES WERE SHATTERED-

CALGREN RAISED A SASH AND

STEPPED INSIDE -IT WAS 11 PM-

REALLY IMPORTANT STORIES HAD BEEN SCARCE AND DALGREN DECIDED TO AMUSE HIMSELF BY VISITING THE "HAUNTED MANSION" AT BAY MANOR—THERE MIGHT BE A HUMOROUS STORY IN IT—THAT NIGHT THE MOTED REPORTER ARRIVED AT BAY MANOR AND ENTERED THE GATES' LEADING TO THE GLADSTONE GROUNDS—THE EMPTY OLD MANSION STOOD SILENTLY SILHOUETTED AGAINST A MOONLIT SKY—

IT HAD ONCE BEEN A GRAND PLACE AND THE SCENE OF MANY

ICIAL FUNCTIONS-ITS MASTER, JOHN GLADSTONE, HAD

BEEN DEAD FOR 20 YEARS AND THE ESTATE LEFT TO

HIS RELATIVES -- DALGREN KNEW ITS HISTORY-





THERE WAS NO FURNITURE IN THE HOUSE AND BING WENT INTO THE SPACIOUS HALL WHERE HE WAITED TO SEE WHAT MIGHT HAPPEN A WINDOW RATTLED — SUDDENLY DALGREN SPRANG BOLT UPRIGHT... CHIMES SOMEWHERE IN THE BARE HOUSE STRUCK THE HOUR OF 12 — THEN HE HEARD HEAVY FOOTSTEPS ON THE FLOOR ABOVE.



THIS WAS FOLLOWED BY A WOMAN'S PARTIALLY SUPPRESSED SCREAM—THE REPORTER'S BLOOD FROZE IN ITS VEINS—DALGREN LEFT THE HALL AND CROSSED THE HUGE LIVING ROOM—IN A MOONLIT PATCH ON THE FLOOR WAS A SMALL POOL OF BLOOD—HE STOPPED TO EXAMINE IT AND A WARM DROP FELL ON HIS HAND—WITHOUT FURTHER INVESTIGATION DALGREN HASTICY LEFT AND RETURNED TO THE CITY—



THAT HIGHT AT THE TIMESHEWS OFFICE DALGREN
WROTE A SENSATIONAL
FIRST-HAND STORY ABOUT
THE GLADSTONE HAUNTED
HOUSE-HE DESCRIBED HIS
OWIJ EXPERIENCE—HIS
MANAGING EDITOR, FEELEY,
LAUGHED AS BING FEVER—
ISHLY HAMMERED THE KEYS-



NEXT DAY DALGREN RETURNED TO BAY MANOR AND VISITED THE THREE NEWSSTANDS IN THE VILLAGE—AT EACH ONE HE INQUIRED IF ANY ONE PERSOIL HAD BOUGHT MORE THAN A SHOLE COPY OF THE TIMES—NEWS THAT DAY—



YES, SAID ONE NEWSDEALER, A
MAN HAD BOUGHT SIX COPIES—
WHO WAS IT?—THE NEWSDEALER
TOLD BING—

LET ME TELL YOU, WALDO, I'LL HAUNT MY HOUSE IF ITS EVER SOLD-HA-HA-



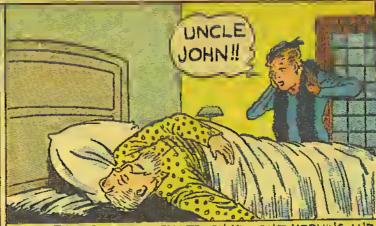
DALGREN CALLED ON MR. MANNING WHO WAS IN THE REAL ESTATE BUSINESS—CALLING HIMSELF MR. BROWN, PALEGREN ASKED THE PRICE OF THE GLADSTONE PROPERTY—MR. MANNING LAUGHED AND A SKED MR. BROWN "IF HE KNEW THE REPUTATION OF THE GLADSTONE PLACE—IF NOT, HE OUGHT TO BE TOLD—



MR MANING HAD BEEN AN INTIMATE FRIEND OF MR GLADSTONE-MR GLADSTONE, A CHILDLESS WIDDWER OF 73 HAD DIED IN THE HOUSE UIDER MOST MYSTERIOUS CIRCUNSTANCES-HE HAD OFFEN THREATENED TO RETURN AFTER HIS DEATH AND THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF HIS DEATH WERE EVERY PECULIAR, INDEED



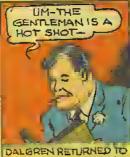
DURING THE LAST FIVE YEARS OF HIS LIFE MR. GLADSTONE. LIVED ALONE WITHOUT ANY SERVANTS - FOR SOME STRANGE REASON HE ALWAYS KEPT A PISTOL UNDER HIS PILLOW—THOUGH A RICH MAN, HE SELDOM HAD MUCH CASH IN THE HOUSE - HE SEEMED FEARBL OF SOMETHING-EVERYONE KNEW HE HAD THE REVOLVER-



ONE OF HIS RELATIVES CALLED ON HIM ONE MORNING AND FOUND HIM DEAD IN BED—THE SHOCKED LADY RUSHED FROM THE HOUSE AND SUMMONED ROLICE—A CAREFUL EXAMINATION WAS MADE OF THE BODY AND THE ROOM—THERE WERE NO FINGERPRINTS—SIX SMALL PEBBLES WERE FOUND IN THE BED AND ON THE FLOOR—MR. GLADSTONE'S RISTOL WAS HISSING—THE BODY SHOWED NO SIGNS OF WOUNDS OR OF STRANGULATION—AN AUTOPSY DEVELOPED NO TRACE OF POISON—IT WAS DECLARED A NATURAL DEATH AND IN TIME THE COMMUNITY DISMISSED THE AFFAIR—



DALGREN LISTENED EAGERLY TO THE TALE-HE ASKED HR. MANNING AGAIN WHAT PRICE WOULD BUY THE PLACE-MR. MANNING SAID HE THOUGHT \$250,000 MIGHT SECURE IT-BING SUGGESTED THAT THIS WAS "HEAVY SUGAR" AND LEFT THE OFFICE



DALGREN RETURNED TO NEW YORK AND CON-SULTED A BUSINESS DIRECTORY-HE ROUND MR. MANNING LISTED AS A MEMBER OF TEN REAL ESTATE FIRMS-HE WAS A OF GOOD FAMILY-



HE THEN CONSULTED A
PHYSICIAN FRIEND WITH THE
ABOVE RESULT



BING WENT BACK TO BAY MANOR AND INTERVIEWED MANY
OF THE OLDER, RESIDENTS WHO HAD KNOWN MR.GLADSTONEONE OF THEM WAS AN ELDERLY CLAM DIGGER-HE TOLD
BING A STRANGE, STORY-IT SEEMS THAT MR.GLADSTONE
WAS A VERY DEMOCRATIC NEIGHBOR IN SPITE OF HIS
\*\*CCENTRICITIES-HIS FRIENDS USED TO "KID" HIM ABOUT
HIS PISTOL-MR.GLADSTONE WOULD. JOHINGLY REPLY
THAT HE WAS AFRAID OF GHOSTS AND WANTED HIS
WEAPON HANDY---



IT ALSO SEEMS THAT MR.MANNING ONCE HAD THE CLAM DIGGER, KANK WOLFER; ARRESTED A LONG TIME AGO OVER A SMALL MATTER OF WHICH WOLFER WAS INNOCENTHANK HAD OFTEN WANTED TO TELL GOME BODY WHAT HE REMEMBERED ONE NIGHT







THE GLADSTONE MANSION WOULD SOON HAVE A PURCHASER UNLESS-YES, UNLESS MANNING STOPPED THE SALE-BECAUSE HE WANTED IT HIMSELF-PURCHASERS SHUN A SO-CALLED HAUNTED HOUSE-SO MANNING "HAUNTED" THE MANSION-THE GHOST RUMOR SPREAD-HE KEPT IT GOING-HE WANTED TO BUY THE PLACE AT A RIDICULOUSLY LOW



DALGREN ENTERED THE "HAUNTED HOUSE ONE MORNING ALONE - HE EXPLORED IT FROM CELLAR TO ATTIC IN A FALSE FIREPLACE ON THE SECOND FLOOR HE DISCOVERED A PHONOGRAPH WITH SOUND-EFFECT RECORD HEAVY SHOES, A CAN OF DILUTED RED PAINT, A HEAVY CHAIN AND OTHER ACCESSORIES FOR "HAUNTING A PLACE - PLUS A LETTER TO ONE WALDO MANNING, WHICH THAT GENTLEMAN HAD INADVERTANT DROPPED WHILE HE WAS GHOST PERFORMING.



FURTHER INVESTIGATION BY DALGREN DISCLOSED THAT EVERY REAL ESTATE FIRM WITH WHICH MR. MANNING WAS CONNECTED HAD SEVERAL "HAUNTED HOUSES" ON ITS LIST- VALUABLE PROPERTIES WHICH MANNING DIDN'T WANT- OTHERS TO BUY-HE WAS SAVING THEM FOR HIMSELF.



DALGREN HAD HIS WHOLE SENSATIONAL READY AT THE OFFICE - THEN HE CHARGED MANNING WITH THE MURDER OF JOHN GLADSTON AND CONNIVING AT FRAUD-MANNING WAS ARRESTE THOUGH NOT CONVICTED HE WAS DRIVEN IN DIS-GRACE FROM HIS COMMUNITY AND LATER FROM THE STATE



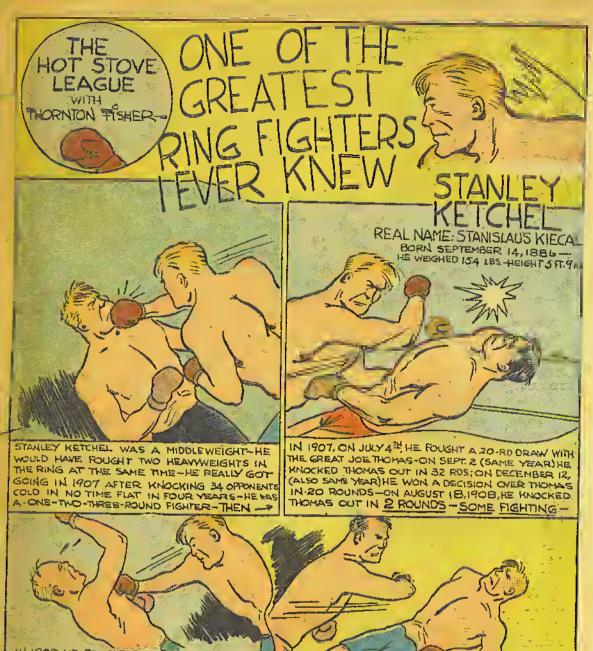
THE SITUATION WAS THIS: MANNING KNEW THAT OLD MAN GLADSTONE HAD A BAD TICKER AND THAT A SLIGHT SHOCK WOULD KILL HIM-MANNING TOOK TWO INNOCENT FRIENDS TO MAKE THE PARTY LOOK LEGITIMATE-THROWING THE PEBBLES BACK WHICH HE THOUGHT WERE HIS BULLETS SIMPLY SCARED GLADSTONE, TO DEATH- IF MANNING HADN'T SWIPED THE PISTOL I MIGHT HAVE BEEN LESS SUSPICIOUS - THAT WAS HIS MISTAKE-

BING

GOSH,

THE STORY CREATED A PURORE - THE EXPOSED HOAX IMMEDIATELY SENT CUSTOMERS BAY MANOR TO BID FOR THE GLADSTONE PROPERTY WHICH WAS SOLD FOR A FABULOUS PRICE AND THE NEEDY HEIRS RECEIVED THEIR JUST SHARES - DALGREN EXPLAINED 

ANY SIMILARITY TO PERSONS LIVING OR DEAD IS





KNOCKED OUT PHILA JACK OBRIEN IN 3 RDS

IN 1909 (OCT. 16) HE WAS KO'D BY JACK JOHNSON IN 12 RDS

KETCHEL WAS SHOT TO DEATH AT. CONWAY, MO., GCT. 15, 1910

